

SECRET INVASION™

ABNETT LANNING PELLETIER MAGYAR GURU

GUARDIANS
OF THE GALAXY™



IN THE WAKE OF TWO CATASTROPHIC ANNIHILATION EVENTS, THE UNIVERSE IS IN A FRAGILE AND WEAKENED STATE. WITH THE FABRIC OF SPACE ITSELF DAMAGED, ANOMALOUS FISSURES ARE BEGINNING TO APPEAR, FISSURES THAT COULD CRACK AND SPREAD, COLLAPSING REALITY AND LETTING IN THINGS THAT SHOULD NOT EXIST IN OUR DIMENSION.

GUIDED BY THE MYSTICAL INSIGHT OF THE NEWLY RETURNED ADAM WARLOCK, THE GUN-SLINGING STAR-LORD HAS FORGED A PROACTIVE TEAM OF PROVEN COSMIC CHAMPIONS READY TO PROTECT THE VULNERABLE UNIVERSE AND PREVENT ANY LARGE-SCALE DISASTERS FROM EVER HAPPENING AGAIN. TOGETHER, STAR-LORD, WARLOCK, QUASAR, GAMORA, DRAX, MANTIS AND ROCKET RACCOON ARE THE...

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION ABOARD KNOWHERE, THE GUARDIANS' REFUGE HQ AT THE EDGE OF SPACE/TIME, HAS CRIPPLED THE CONTINUUM CORTEX, KILLED MANY INNOCENT RESIDENTS, AND REVEALED THAT SHAPE-SHIFTING SKRULLS ARE OPERATING COVERTLY ON THE STATION. WITH KNOWHERE ON SECURITY LOCK-DOWN, AND TRAVEL ON AND OFF THE STATION SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF THE LOSS OF THE CORTEX, PARANOIA AND SUSPICION HAVE SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE.

PLAGUED BY ARGUMENTS AND PERSONALITY CLASHES, THE GUARDIANS ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THE ROOT OF THE SKRULL INFILTRATION, BUT KNOWHERE'S ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, LED BY DELEGATE GORANI, ACCUSES THE TEAM OF BRINGING THE THREAT ABOARD. GORANI DEMANDS THAT THE TEAM SUSPEND ITS ACTIVITIES UNTIL THE CRISIS IS PAST. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THE COUNCIL IS DRAX, WHO WAS RECORDED MAKING SEVERAL UNAUTHORIZED VISITS TO THE CORTEX PRIOR TO THE EXPLOSION.

THE COUNCIL MOUNTS A STATION-WIDE MANHUNT FOR DRAX. BUT DRAX HAS IDEAS OF HIS OWN. HE REASONS THAT AS SKRULLS RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE FORM AFTER DEATH, THE ONLY SURE WAY TO DETECT THEM IS TO KILL THEM...

...AND THAT MEANS KILLING EVERYONE ABOARD KNOWHERE.



STAR-LORD
(PETER QUILL)



ADAM
WARLOCK



QUASAR
(PHYLA-VELL)



GAMORA



DRAX



MANTIS



ROCKET

KNOWHERE
AT THE EDGE
OF SPACE/TIME...

DEATH

A *SECRET INVASION* STORY

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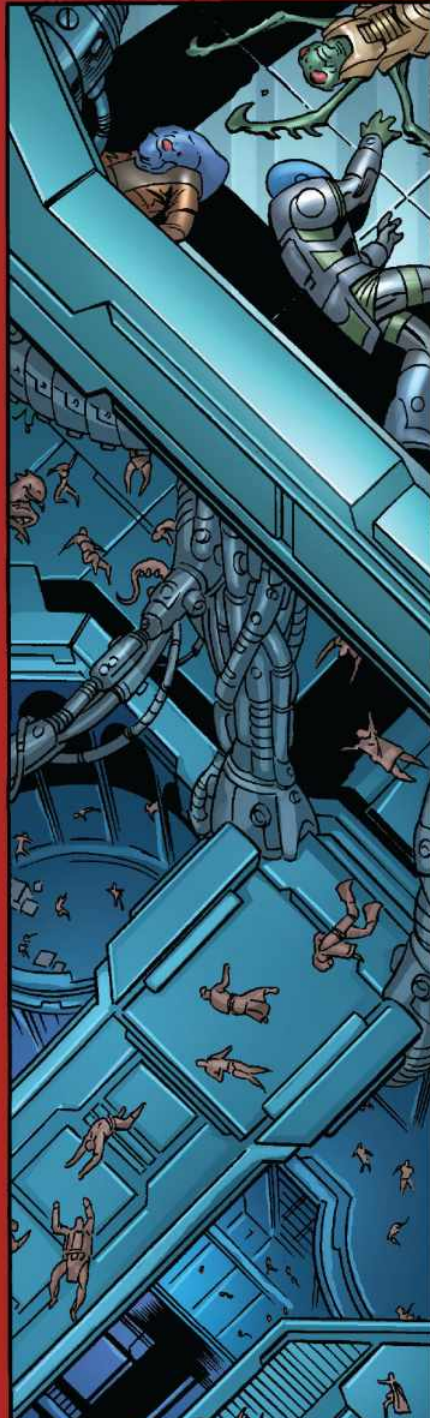
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WHY IN
HALA'S NAME
DID YOU DO IT,
DRAX?

HEY!
EASY!
EASY!

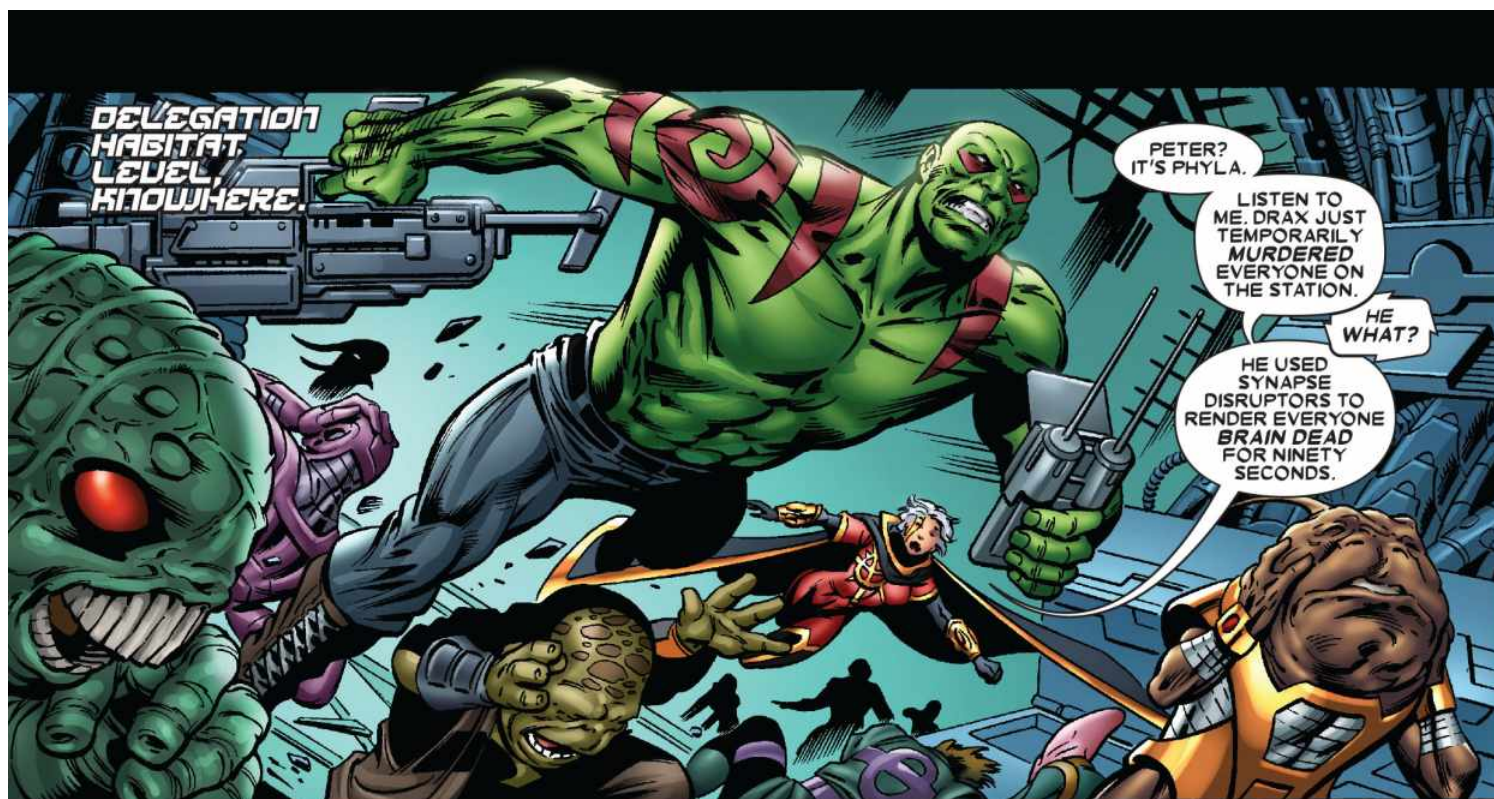
WHAT DID
YOU DO, YOU
MANIAC? WHAT
DID YOU
DO?!

SKRULLS,
PHYLA.
I
FOUND THE
SKRULLS.









DELEGATION
HABITAT
LEVEL,
KNOWHERE.

PETER?
IT'S PHYLA.

LISTEN TO
ME, DRAX JUST
TEMPORARILY
MURDERED
EVERYONE ON
THE STATION.

HE
WHAT?

HE USED
SYNAPSE
DISRUPTORS TO
RENDER EVERYONE
BRAIN DEAD
FOR NINETY
SECONDS.



WHY
WOULD
HE--

TO GET
THE SKRULLS TO
REVEAL THEMSELVES.
PETER, HE'S GOT A
LOCK ON THEM.
DELEGATION HABITAT
LEVEL.

WE'RE
ON OUR
WAY.

PHY...ARE
YOU SURE DRAX
IS ON THE LEVEL?
THIS COULD BE JUST
ANOTHER WRINKLED-
CHIN TRICK.

HOLD
ON.



DRAX!

WHAT?

I NEED
TO KNOW.
WHY WERE YOU
TRACKED NEAR
THE CONTINUUM
CORTEX? WHAT
WERE YOU
DOING?

I BEEN
TAKING TRIPS,
ON MY OWN TIME,
LOOKING FOR A
KID NAMED
CAMMI.

SHE'S
BEEN MISSING
SINCE THE WAR
AGAINST
ANNIHILUS.

I LOST
ONE KID. I
BEEN TRYING
NOT TO LOSE
ANOTHER.



YOU HEAR
THAT?

YEAH. IDIOT
COULD HAVE
JUST TOLD US
THAT IN THE
FIRST PLACE.

STAY WITH
HIM, PHY. TRY TO
STOP HIM FROM,
YOU KNOW...

"...KILLING
ANYONE THAT
MATTERS."

KRASSSHH

SKRULLS!

DRAX.
PUT THE
CANNON
DOWN.

HNH.
THE
DOG I
JUST ABOUT
BUY, BUT
YOU?

HOW
LONG YOU
BEEN WORKING
WITH THESE
STINKING SHAPE-
SHIFTERS,
WARLOCK?

IS NOT
BEINK WHAT
YOU THINK,
COMRADE
DRAX!

PLEASE,
DRAX--

SHUT
UP.

UKKH?

GRRRRR



YOU CAN SHUT UP TOO.

YOOWWWW!!!

AARGHH!

I'M SORRY, DRAX. YOU HAVE TO STOP.

GET OFF HIM! GET OFF HIM!

ADAM, HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY?

THEY'RE NOT CRAZY, QUASAR! THEY'RE SKRULLS!

OWW! D'AST IT ALL, PHYLIA! YOU JUST DON'T--



THESE SKRULLS ARE NOT BEING YOUR ENEMIES. SEE! SEE TRUTH!

THEIR SPECIES IS PREPARING FOR NEW WAR, BRUTAL AND VICIOUS!

BUT THEY WANT NO PART OF THAT!

FRIEND COSMO DOES NOT LIE.

WE ARE FOLLOWERS OF THE MARTYR ANELLE. WE DEPLORE THE AGGRESSIVE TENDENCIES OF OUR KIND.

THE JIHADIST HARDCORE WANT US DEAD FOR OUR OPPOSITION TO THEIR SCHEMES OF CONQUEST.

WITH FRIEND COSMO'S AID, WE HAVE BEEN USING KNOWHERE'S CONTINUUM CORTEX TO HELP OTHERS LIKE US ESCAPE THIS OPPRESSION.

PACIFIST SKRULLS? I AIN'T BUYING A BAR OF THAT.

JUST A TEEPING TRICK.

THIS IS THE TRUTH, DRAX. CAN'T YOU FEEL IT?

AFTER EACH ESCAPE RUN THROUGH THE CORTEX, FRIEND COSMO FORCED US TO WIPE HIS MEMORY SO THAT HE COULD NOT BETRAY US.

COSMO FIGURE HE COULD NOT BE TELLING WHAT HE WAS NOT KNOWING.

PRECISELY. IT WAS VITAL NO ONE DISCOVERED US.

IT'S NOT. THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT...AN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD TO FREEDOM.



DO YOU SEE NOW?

MAYBE. SO WHO FRAGGED THE CORTEX?



A WEAPONISED SUPER-SKRULL.

AN AGENT OF THE JIHADIST REGIME.

HE FOUND OUR RAILROAD, BUT DIED TRYING TO SHUT IT DOWN.



WHY?

I'M SORRY, KREE. WHAT IS YOUR QUESTION?

WHY ARE THEY SO DESPERATE TO SILENCE YOU? YOU'RE NO THREAT TO THEM.

WHY IS THE SKRULL HIGH COMMAND SO DETERMINED TO EXTERMINATE ITS POLITICAL OPPONENTS?



BECAUSE THEY DESPISE US. THEY BELIEVE WE SHOULD STAND WITH THEM OR PERISH.

THEY ARE GOING TO WAR AGAINST THE OLD ENEMY.

THE KREE?

NO...



...THE HUMAN RACE.

THE SKRULLS HAVE LAUNCHED AN INVASION OF THE PLANET EARTH.



SKRULL
INFILTRATORS
LOCATED!
TAKE THEM
DOWN, LUMINALS!
TAKE EVERYONE
IN THIS CHAMBER
DOWN NOW!

CHOOM

OH
BOZHE MOI!
HERE WE
GO...





OH GREAT.

NOT A CLUE...

ANY IDEA WHICH SIDE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ON?

...SO SWITCH YOUR CANNON TO STUN, ROCKY. WE'RE GONNA BREAK THIS UP BEFORE SOMEONE GETS REALLY HURT...

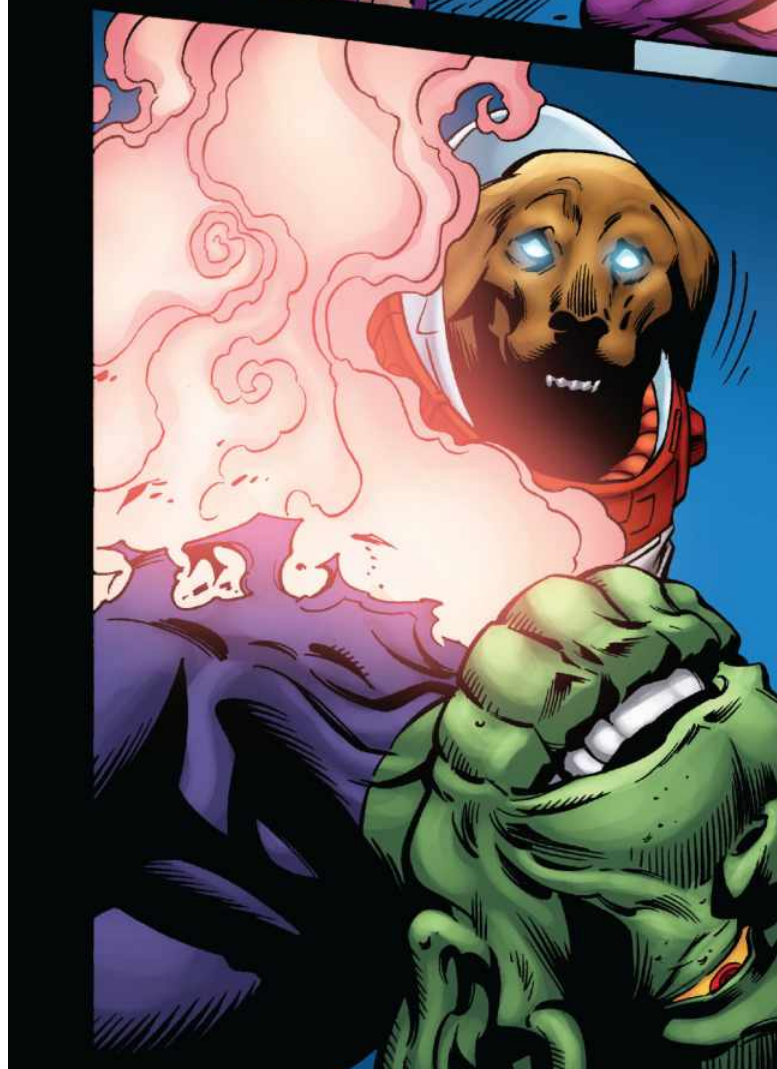
...AND THEN WE WORRY ABOUT WHO'S RIGHT AND WHO'S WRONG.

YOU HAVE SELECTED: TRAND ROUNDS

BACK OFF! COSMO VERY CROSS!

THIS IS BEINK SERIOUS BREACH OF PUBLIC ORDER!

COSMO HAVE GOOD MIND TO THROW YOU ALL IN SLAMMER!



**15 MINUTES AND ONE MASSIVE
TELEKINETIC BLAST LATER...**



THE MEDICS
SAY YOU WILL
MAKE GOOD
RECOVERY.

YOU
REST NOW.
COSMO WILL
CHECK BACK
LATER.



...UNACCEPTABLE
BEHAVIOR! ZERO
REGARD FOR PROTOCOL
OR THE RULE OF
LAW!

OH, LISTEN
TO YOURSELF!
YOU CONDUCTED
A WITCH HUNT
AGAINST MY TEAM! A
FREAKIN' WITCH
HUNT!

OH
BOY.



REALLY? THE SKRULL
INFILTRATION WAS A
CLEAR AND PRESENT
THREAT--

WHICH THE
GUARDIANS HAD
NOTHING TO
DO WITH!

FUNNY,
THAT.

AND IT
WASN'T EVEN
A SKRULL
INFILTRATION
IN THE END,
WAS IT?



THEY WERE
JUST INNOCENTS...
FRIGHTENED PEOPLE
SEARCHING FOR
SALVATION.

THE REAL
THREAT WAS
TO EARTH.

WHICH
SUCKS, BECAUSE
UNTIL THE CORTEX
IS REBUILT, WE'RE
STRANDED HERE
AND EARTH IS ON
ITS OWN.



AND NO,
I DON'T KNOW
IF THE HUMAN
RACE HAS
SURVIVED.

THANKS
FOR ASKING.









**NEXT ISSUE:
OUT WITH THE OLD,
IN WITH THE NEW!**

